

Message Text

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21

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

OMB-01 MC-02 ACDA-05 AID-05 EB-07 NRC-05 TRSE-00

ERDA-05 COME-00 /087 W
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R 120800Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1621

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 1279

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MU

SUBJECT: MUNITIONS CONTROL AND AGENTS FEES

REF: STATE 255260

1. NEW PROVISIONS OF ASPR (REFTEL PARA 3) PERTAINING TO SPECIFYING OF AGENT FEES IN FMS CASES SEEM REASONABLE TO US, AND LIKELY TO BE UNDERSTOOD BY OMANGOV AND SULTAN'S ARMED FORCES HERE. WE KNOW OF NO ESTABLISHED OMANI POLICY ONE WAY OR THE OTHER REGARDING AGENTS FEES.

2. OMANGOV HAS SHOWN NO INTEREST SO FAR IN ENTIRE QUESTION OF AGENCY FEE PAYMENTS AND RECENT U.S. HEADLINE CASES THAT HAVE PROMPTED CURRENT FOCUS OF USG INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT. ASSUMING THERE IS EVEN MINIMUM BASIS FOR BELIEVING LOCAL HEARSAY AND GOSSIP ABOUT MAJOR OMANI ARMS AND OTHER PURCHASES AND CONTRACTS GENERALLY, SOME PRETTY HIGH-UP PEOPLE HERE ARE DEEPLY INVOLVED, TO THEIR OWN MATERIAL ADVANTAGE, IN CONTRACT MANIPULATION AS A REGULAR PRACTICE. THEY PROBABLY CONSIDER THIS IS SIMPLY THE WAY THINGS ARE AND OUGHT TO BE. THIS PHILOSOPHY OF USING ONE'S OFFICIAL POSITION AND INFLUENCE TO GAIN PERSONAL FINANCIAL ADVANTAGE HAS SO FAR ACTED AS A DELAYING FACTOR IN ANY THOUGHTS THERE MAY BE SOMEWHERE IN
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OMANGOV TO COMPEL DISCLOSURE OF AGENTS FEE PAYMENTS AND THE

LIKE. WE THINK, IN ANY CASE, OMANIS WILL BE PASSIVE TO ANY
DISCLOSURE POLICY/PRACTICES USG DECIDES TO PURSUE, AND THAT
IN THE LONG RUN FAIRLY EXPLICIT RULES ALONG LINES OF REFTEL
PARA 4 WOULD BE IN OUR INTEREST.
WOLLE

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Message Attributes

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